

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
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(b) the first device identifying devices having the right to access related registers to store in itself information relating to the identified devices;

(c) the first device determining whether there is a request for access to the related registers by a third-party device;

*A1*  
*one* (d) determining whether the third-party device is included in the previously stored devices if there is a request;

(e) the first device accepting the request of the third-party device if the third-party device is determined to be included in the devices stored in the step (d); and

(f) the first device returning an error code to the third-party device, which indicates that the first device cannot accept the request, if the third-party device is not determined to be included in the devices stored in the step (d).

*A2* *sub B2*  
The method of claim 1, wherein the establishment of the operation mode is made on the basis of the overall device, subunit, or a specific output plug, and in the step (a) a private mode is established in the overall device, subunit, or a specific output plug.

*A3* *sub B2*  
The method of any of claims 1, 2 and 5, wherein the digital interface conforms to the IEEE 1394 standard.